

New species of mites in the genera *Uropoda*, *Crinitodiscus* and *Uroobovella* from Turkey (Acari: Mesostigmata: Uropodidae, Urodinychidae)

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Abstract

Three new mite species of the cohort Uropodina, *Uropoda turcica* **sp. nov.**, *Crinitodiscus ayyildizi* **sp. nov.** and *Uroobovella anatolica* **sp. nov.**, are described and illustrated on the basis of specimens collected from Turkey. *Uropoda turcica* **sp. nov.** and *Crinitodiscus ayyildizi* **sp. nov.** (Uropodidae) were collected from the Eastern Black Sea Region, and *Uroobovella anatolica* **sp. nov.** was collected from Eastern Anatolia. All new species presented here are endemic, and have not been collected from any other regions or habitats in Turkey. Adults and deutonymphs of *Uropoda turcica* **sp. nov.** and *Crinitodiscus ayyildizi* **sp. nov.**, and adults of *Uroobovella anatolica* **sp. nov.** are described, and ecological information for the new species is given.

Key words : Acari, Uropodina, *Uropoda*, *Uroobovella*, *Crinitodiscus*, new species, Turkey

Introduction

Uropodine mites have been known as scientific curiosities since pre-Linnean times, due to the manner in which their deutonymphs attach themselves to the exoskeletons of various terrestrial arthropods (Ainscough, 1981). This behaviour occurs in many species of these mites, but many are also free-living and not phoretically associated with other animals.

The three species included in this study are in genera of higher Uropodina (*Uropoda*, *Crinitodiscus*, *Uroobovella*), which are characterised by ventral depressions to accept the legs (pedofossae), and have the tritosternum (= sternapophysis) and gnathosoma concealed by the enlarged coxae I.

Most species of the family Uropodidae Latreille live in forest soil, humus and decaying organic material in mixed forests, under or among leaves of deciduous trees in forests, grass and decaying material and under bark, under leaves and litter of coniferous